



# BISHOP'S CASTLE



DECEMBER 2021

To  
JANUARY 2022  
ISSUE 78





Hopefully this Christmas won't be cancelled like last year, although as we go to press there are daily news stories breaking about it being a tough winter ahead and the threat of restrictions remains whilst the number of cases locally are at an all-time high. We must all make efforts to reduce transmission of this virus by following expert advice as well as respecting the wishes of those around us.

## The Mayor Grant Perry

A number of events have been planned for the festive period and we should all try and support these events and our local business who have been there for us all throughout this pandemic as much as we can, including a weekend of events around the 4th December that may have already occurred by the time you read this!

The sudden closure of our Hospital at the end of October was a shock to us all and we along with our County Councillors continue to press the Community Health Trust for answers to numerous questions as well as working with other Partners to seek a long term solution to the health concerns of the community. I am sure this subject will continue for a while so please keep an eye on relevant press and social media about any meetings or events that may be planned.

As we move into 2022 the Business Park is progressing well and hopefully the two play area Refurbishments as well as some much need improvements to the Auction Yard Toilets will be completed along with the renewal of the advisory road markings in the Town Centre. This will be a further attempt to educate road users to the

vagaries of our Town Traffic problems and will hopefully alleviate any future necessity to bring enforcement officers or traffic systems to the town and you can play your part in keeping enforcement free by observing the advisory markings at all times and especially in the area around Spar and Co-op. We should also be able to review the Neighbourhood Development Plan that a huge amount of work has gone into albeit that it has been delayed over 12 months due to Covid. We were also recently successful in being allocated a small grant to help tidy up the Town and this has been allocated to weed removal, moss removal and sign cleaning in and around the Town Centre.

Hopefully 2022 can be a year of progress and although no one knows what is around the corner I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last year and to wish you a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.



**Drop in, Pop in  
Carol Singing**  
**for everyone**  
**with Christmas Music from**  
*The Bishop's Castle Orchestra with Guest singers*  
**Saturday 18th December 4pm - 5.30pm**  
*St John's Church, Bishop's Castle - Mince pies & Hot Drinks,*

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## BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN COUNCIL

Full Council meetings take place usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month:

*All meetings are held in the Town Hall and commence at 7.30pm. Members of the public are most welcome to attend.*

*There is a specific point in each agenda that members of the public may speak. Should you have an issue you would like to bring to the Council's attention or something you would like to discuss, please let the Clerk know beforehand that you would like to speak and the subject matter so that we can prepare.*

### Cut off dates for the News letter

If you wish any article to appear in the Newsletter these are the cut off dates for the inclusion in the following month's Newsletter.

19th November 2021

21st January 2022

# BISHOP'S CASTLE TOWN HALL

Listings for December 2021 & January 2022

For Further information on all our events look on our website  
[www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Or contact us 01588 630023

Until 11th December – Art Exhibition Castle Artists Around 15 local artists come together occasionally to show 'Affordable Art', which can include paintings, linocuts, watercolours, jewellery and cards.

For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

4th Dec      Antiques and Flea Market 9am to 4pm

First Saturday of the month. Lift available. Free entry.

Tel: 01588 630023

4th Dec      Father Christmas at the Town Hall

Santa will be there to meet the children from 5pm

9th Dec      Going Wild Talks – Opening the Ark Harriet Carty of 'Caring for God's Acre' will talk about how brilliant churchyards are for nature and how you can get involved in a new project which is helping wildlife to spread from these hotspots into our gardens and green spaces.

For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Book Tickets online or at The Town Hall.

10th Dec    BLAST – Storytelling - Fireside Tales for a Winter's Night

For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Book Tickets online or at The Town Hall.

17th Dec Churchfitters Concert - a folk band like no other. Bass guitars made out of frying pans, heart-wrenching vocals accompanied by a musical saw. Foot-stompingy fast fiddle mixed with infectious funk-rock banjo, and traditional melodies reinvigorated with mesmerising rock rhythms.

For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Book Tickets online or at The Town Hall.

18th Dec Farmer's Market 9am to 1pm This ever popular Farmers Market is held on the third Saturday of each month. Stalls include Meat, Poultry, Specialist Teas, Plants, Flowers, Cakes, Bread, Preserves, Honey, Chocolate, all produced locally.

18th Dec – 15th Jan Art Exhibition by Tahira Paul – Open during Town Hall opening hours, Mon – Sat 10am to 4pm. For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

January 2022

Until 15th Jan Art Exhibition by Tahira Paul – Open during Town Hall opening hours, Mon – Sat 10am to 4pm. For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

8th Jan Antiques and Flea Market 9am to 4pm

First Saturday of the month. Lift available. Free entry.

13th Jan Going Wild Talks.

For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Book Tickets online or at The Town Hall.

14th Jan BLAST – Storytelling returns live to The Town Hall.

For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Book Tickets online or at The Town Hall.

15th Jan Farmer's Market 9am to 1pm This ever popular Farmers

Market is held on the third Saturday of each month. Stalls include Meat, Poultry, Specialist Teas, Plants, Flowers, Cakes, Bread, Preserves, Honey, Fruit & Veg, Chocolate all produced locally.

22nd Jan – 19th Feb Exhibition subject to be confirmed – Open during Town Hall opening hours, Mon – Sat 10am to 4pm. For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

29th Jan Clun Valley Jazz Concert - Jim Rattigan Quartet

For more details – [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Book Tickets online or at The Town Hall.

Listings for February 2022 and for further information on all our events look on our website [www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk](http://www.bishopscastletownhall.co.uk)

Or contact us 01588 630023



### Parking outside the Town Hall

The area at the side of the Town Hall is not for public parking, it is reserved for Town Hall use only. Apart from disabled visitors it is also needed for musicians and market stall holders unloading, often when the Town Hall is closed to the public. It is also a vital passing place. There are two large 'No Parking' signs but these have been repeatedly ignored, at the last Farmers Market a car left overnight meant that all the stall holders had to walk some distance to carry their goods into the Town Hall, making several trips with heavy boxes. We are now planning on buying a wheel clamp.



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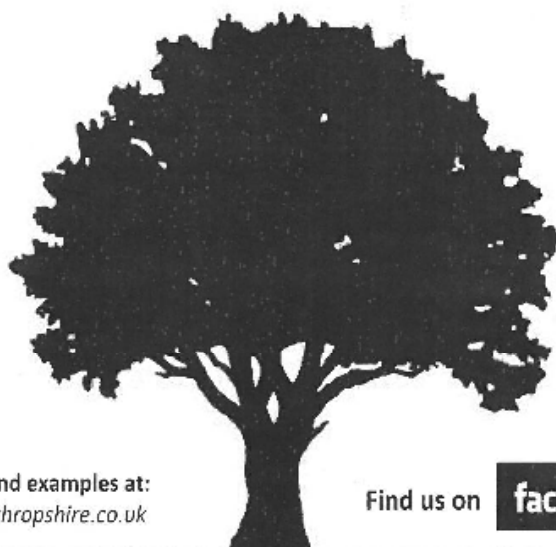
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Email [kbloor@coveragecareservice.co.uk](mailto:kbloor@coveragecareservice.co.uk)

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**Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10.30 am - 4 pm**

**And other days, when the weather is good,  
or if it's a Bank Holiday.**

Look forward to seeing you soon,  
Tim and Michèle

# How to contact your Town Councillors:

**Councillor Jane Carroll**

Tel: 01588 638467

Email:

jane.carrol@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

**Councillor Ruth Houghton**

Tel: 01588 638352

Email:

ruthm.houghton55@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

**Councillor Andy Stelman**

Tel 07773006413

Email

andy.stelman@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

**Councillor Josh Dickin**

Tel 07530691106

Email

josh.dickin@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

**Councillor Grant Perry**

Tel: 01588 638233

Email:

grant.perry@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

**Councillor Stuart Morris**

Tel: 01588 630114

Email:

stuart.morris@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

**Councillor Bamber Hawes**

Tel: 07957 667847

Email:

bamber.hawes@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

**Councillor Tim Halford**

Tel: 01588 638333

Email:

timhalford@yahoo.com

**Councillor Daphne Du Cros**

Town Clerk: 01588 638141

townclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

*Monday to Thursday 9.30am—12.30pm*

*For allotment enquiries please contact*

assistantclerk@bishopscastletowncouncil.gov.uk

If anyone wishes to be a councillor please contact the clerk on 01588

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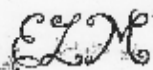
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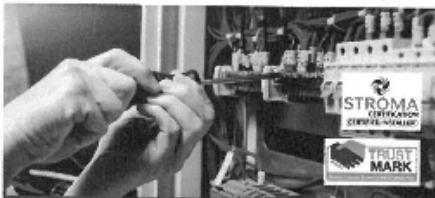


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# Castle Artists' Exhibition



By Jacs Thompson



By Drusilla Cole



By Josie Crompton

Around 15 local artists come together occasionally to show 'Affordable Art', which can include paintings, linocuts, watercolours, jewellery and cards.

to include work by Drusilla Cole, Josie Compton, Gordon Yapp, Pat Simon, Nigel Kerry, Tim Phillips, Sue Percy, Ann Macdonald, Jacqui Thompson, Sue Powell, David Henry, Val Littlehales, Andrew Farmer, Jane Fairweather & Kate Chitham.

From Sat. 20th November  
until Sat. 11th December

Open from 10am until 4pm, Monday to Saturday



For more information

tel: 01588 630023 or

email [info@bishopscaletownhall.co.uk](mailto:info@bishopscaletownhall.co.uk)

# CRAFT FAIR

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**B.L.A.S.T! Friday 10th December**  
**Bishops Castle Town Hall 8pm**



**Midwinter Merriment,  
Muse and Melancholy:**  
**With Amy Douglas, Suzanne and Jake Tumnus  
and Friends**

Dark Tales were traditionally told in Winter time.  
But in that darkness, there was hope,  
in the melancholy there was joy.

Join us as we celebrate the light within the dark with  
stories, songs and seasonal folklore.

Doors open at 7.30pm. £8 per person, £28 group ticket (up to 4)

Tea, coffee, local beer and homemade cake (inc gluten-free/vegan) available

For more information visit our Facebook page "BLAST Storytelling Bishops Castle Beautiful Lies and Startling Truths"

Or email amythestoryteller@hotmail.com website [www.b-l-a-s-t.co.uk](http://www.b-l-a-s-t.co.uk)

# THE CHURCHFITTERS' Christmas cracker

A mouthwatering selection of traditional, familiar and original festive songs and Christmas carols, this cracker of a show will see Christmas in with a bang and a paper hat-full of surprises, novelties - and terrible jokes as well!



**Bishop's Castle Town Hall  
Friday 17th December 2021**

Doors open at 7.30pm for 8pm start

**Tickets - £14**

available from the Town Hall or on-line  
at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/bcth](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bcth)

## 'Going Wild in BC' Winter Talks

Bishop's Castle Town Hall  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm

Donations welcomed to help cover costs

### Opening the Ark

Harriet Carty of *Caring for God's Acre* will talk about how brilliant Churchyards are for nature and how you can get involved in a new project which is helping wildlife to spread from these hotspots into our gardens and green spaces.



**BISHOP'S CASTLE COMMUNITY**

# **FOOD BANK**

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### Christmas Services

**All the Churches in the Bishop's Castle area wish you a peaceful and joyous Christmas and New Year.**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>** 6.30pm **Edgton** Advent Candlelit Evensong in Church

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>** 10.30am **Bishop's Castle** Messy Church Christmas  
in the Church barn



**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>** 4pm **Bishop's Castle** Church Drop In Pop In Carols  
with BC Orchestra, singers, and mince pies

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>** 3.30pm **Brockton Methodist** Chapel  
Messy Church Christmas



3.30pm **Mainstone** Carol Service in Church

6.30pm **Lydbury North** Carol Service in Church

6pm **Sarn** Christingle Service - Village Hall (outside)



**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>** 4pm **Lydbury North** Crib Service in Church

6.30pm **Bishop's Castle** Christingle and singing around  
the tree led by John Kirkpatrick. Come dressed  
as a nativity character (optional)



8pm Carols and Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at St  
Walburga's **Catholic Church, Plowden**



### **Christmas Day**



9.30am Holy Communion at **Edgton** Church

9.30am Holy Communion at **Mainstone** Church

11am Holy Communion at **Bishop's Castle** Church

11am Holy Communion at **Lydbury North** Church

11.15am Christmas Mass at St Walburga's **Catholic Church, Plowden**



**Quakers:** every Sunday at 10.30am Community Centre in Grange Road



**St John the Baptist Church  
Bishop's Castle**

# **CRAFT FAIR**

**part of**

**Bishop's Castle Christmas Lights**

**Saturday**

**4th December**

**2 - 6pm**

**Free entry**

**Locally made Handicrafts**

**Seasonal Produce**

**Refreshments & Music**



## Save the Stars - getting ready for the builders

Although there's not much to see when you pass by the former Stars Newsagent, a lot of activity is going on behind the scenes. Western Power have been and will be providing a new three phase supply. Work will take place early in the New Year, and involve laying the cable across Church Street, but every effort will be made to minimise the disruption.

Our architect is busy preparing the technical drawings, and he recently met on site with the structural engineer to discuss how best to extend the existing steel structure that supports the residential part of the building above the shop area. The Trust is in contact with local builders who may want to tender for the build and is keen to employ local traders wherever possible.

To help finance the work, in addition to our own fundraising efforts, the Trust will be securing a mortgage from the Ecology Building Society and is in early discussion with the Lottery over possible funding for the non-residential part of the project. We have already raised over £5,000 from the local community, and hope to meet our target of £30,000.

If you would like to donate, any amount you can afford to give will be very gratefully received. You can do so online by going to: [www.bcclt.co.uk/donate](http://www.bcclt.co.uk/donate). For more information about the project, please email [jona-than.brown@bcclt.co.uk](mailto:jona-than.brown@bcclt.co.uk) or phone/text him on 07497 142 485

## Carer required

Carer required for a female client in Bishop's Castle. Approx. four sessions a week (8am-9am and 8pm-9pm). Attractive rates of pay, extra at weekends. Compatibility essential but no previous experience required. Contact Elisabeth on 01588 630776.

# Follow the Star

**Can you find all the stars in  
Bishop's Castle?**

**Where are they leading?**

**Follow the trail!**

**Trails available from Drovers Travel  
from 1st December**

## YOGA & MEDITATION TEACHER

Hello everyone, I'd like to introduce myself, I am Jess and live just outside Bishops Castle. I have been teaching yoga & meditation for 7 years in London at several of the top studios. I teach a spectrum of styles including vinyasa, yin, pregnancy, meditation and kirtan at my home (image below). I am currently teaching **1 FREE** yoga class per week.



Get in touch if you're interested in a session!

**JESSICA WOOD**  
**07890 400 780**

[jessicasyoga-wood.com](http://jessicasyoga-wood.com)  
[www.jessicawoodyoga.com](http://www.jessicawoodyoga.com)  
@jessicawoodyoga

Available for private & group classes.

### Bus timetable for bus routes 552 / 553 Bishop's Castle to Shrewsbury

Monday to Friday times (school days)				Saturday		
	Leaves		Arrives	Leaves		Arrives
Bishop's Castle opposite the Boar's Head all go via the Hospital	7.30		8.30	7.30		8.30
	9.40		10.40	9.30		10.30
	12.20		13.20	12.15		13.15
	13.30		14.30	15.50		16.50
	15.40		16.40			
Shrewsbury Stand    all go via the Hospital	7.35		8.35	8.00		9.00
	10.05		11.05	10.05		11.05
	12.00		13.00	14.45		15.45
	14.00		15.00	17.40		18.40
	16.25		17.25			
	17.40		18.40			

### Bus timetable for bus route 745 Bishop's Castle to Ludlow

Monday and Friday only				Leaves Ludlow		
	Leaves		Arrives			Arrives
Bishop's Castle	9.15		10.25		13.15	14.50

### Bus timetable for bus route Bishop's Castle to Newtown 775

Tuesday only		Leaves		Arrives	Leaves		Lea	Arrives
Bishop's Castle		10.05		10.50	Return	13.50		14.35

### Bus timetable for bus route Bishop's Castle to Pontesbury 775

Bishop's Castle	14.40		15.10			09.30		10.00
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## Auction Yard Toilets

The Toilets in the Auction Yard were transferred from Shropshire Council to the Town Council in April 2011 with a one off grant to assist with maintenance and upkeep. However some 10 years later the infrastructure and condition of the facility has deteriorated somewhat. Parts for the automated systems are becoming more expensive and harder to source since the company that installed them ceased trading.

With the above in mind we are exploring grant or loan funding to provide a refit and refurbishment of them but in order to secure this we have to provide examples of . consultation with the public to gauge the depth of feeling for this commitment. The alternatives would be to leave them as they are or to seek to close them.

Your feedback using the form overleaf would be appreciated.

Please return to the  
Town Hall

## Consultation feedback

Do you use the toilets Y/N

Are you happy with the  
current condition Y/N

Do you think the toilets  
should be refurbished Y/N

If yes are you happy that  
the Town Council to uses  
money from a long term  
low interest loan Y/N

The alternative is to close  
them. would you be happy  
with this Y/N